

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT ECKMILLER, ROLF ET AL.

TITLE MICROCONTACT STRUCTURE FOR NEUROPROSTHESES
FOR IMPLANTATION ON NERVE TISSUE AND METHOD
THEREFOR

FILING DATE Herewith

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Date of Deposit: Jan 26, 2001

Name: Richard C. Woodbridge

Signature

Date of Signature: Jan 26, 2001

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to a First Office Action on the merits of this application please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 3, line 25 please add the following:

- BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 1a-1c illustrate the manner in which the microcontact structure can be folded.

Fig. 1d illustrates the manner in which the folded structure can be clamped in place.

Figs. 2a-2b illustrate the manner in which the microcontact structure can be rolled into a three dimensional object.

Fig. 3 illustrates the manner in which the microcontact structure can conform to the shape of a three dimensional surface.

Fig. 4a is a cross-sectional illustration of the 4-layer microcontact structure in which the active connection between the microcontact structure and the nerve tissue is brought about by electrical stimulation.

Fig. 4b illustrates the manner in which the microcontact structure can be cured by infrared radiation (I.R.) so that the microcontact film is deformed at defined points by focused irradiation and matched to the nerve tissue.

Fig. 4c illustrated the deformation of the microcontact structure by focused UV treatment. —

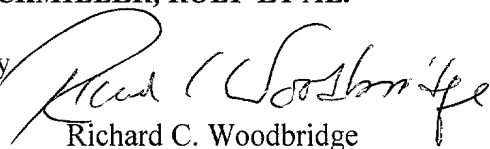
REMARKS:

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is submitted in order to bring the application into better conformance with standard U. S. Patent practice.

Respectfully submitted,

ECKMILLER, ROLF ET AL.

By



Richard C. Woodbridge
Attorney for Applicant
Registration Number 26,423

Woodbridge & Associates, P.C.
P.O. Box 592
Princeton, NJ 08542-0592
Tel (609) 924-3773
Fax (609) 924-1811
cc: Lenzing Gerber